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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The Highlander

Thursday Jan 8 2015 | Issue 167

FREE

INSIDE: FAMILIES STILL FEELING LAST YEAR'S FUEL PRICE SPIKE - SEE PAGE 6



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Wilberforce Curling Club members earned their instructor's certificates from the Ontario Curling Association for the club's new junior program. See story on page 14.

Former airport manager charged with fraud

By Lisa Harrison
 Contributing writer

Duane Hicks, former manager of the Haliburton/Stanhope Municipal Airport, has been charged as a result of a fraud investigation, according to the Haliburton Highlands Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). Hicks, 46, has been charged with two counts of "Theft by Person Required to Account" contrary to Section 330(1) of the Criminal Code of Canada.

The charges stem from the crime unit's investigation into allegations of fraud by the airport manager in the summer of 2013. The investigation revealed "Hicks had

leased hangars at the Stanhope Airport to individuals, invoiced them from his personal company, and collected the money that was paid to him for the hangar rentals," according to the OPP report.

An arrest warrant has been sought for Hicks, who is believed to be living in Alberta.

Hicks' employment as airport manager was terminated by the Township of Algonquin Highlands in December 2012 after approximately a year on the job, according to Reeve Carol Moffatt.

The township stated that Hicks was no longer with the township and the township wished him the best of luck in the future.

Moffatt said it was "disappointing" to learn about the charges.

"I personally really liked Duane and he was popular [with the airport committee and airport tenants] and we did face substantial criticism" over the termination, said Moffatt.

"Certainly at the time of his hiring, of the people we interviewed, he was the preferred candidate."

Moffatt declined to talk about the charges as the issue is before the courts.

"We look forward to the resolution of the charges," she said.



File photo

Duane Hicks at the Stanhope Airport.

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Highlander news

Christmas break-ins under investigation

By Mark Arike
Staff writer

During the Christmas holidays, one Minden business and a residence were broken into on the same day and both incidents remain under investigation.

On the morning of Dec. 30, Haliburton Highlands OPP responded to a break and enter, and attempted theft at Easton's Valu-Mart, located off Highway 35. According to police, the initial investigation revealed that a suspect entered a locked portion of the

building by removing a window pane. The person removed several items from the store, including a President's Choice jacket, but was unable to open the safe.

Police are still looking for a man in his 20s, 5'8"-5'10" with a shaved head. He was last seen wearing checkered black pajama pants and a black jacket.

Later that day, a blue 2012 Toyota Tundra pickup truck and a STIHL chainsaw were stolen from an unlocked garage at a residence on Hunter Creek Road.

A neighbour, whose home was also nearly

broken into, posted about the incident on Facebook.

"Police now tracking in the snow (some suspects on foot)," she wrote. "Scared the heck out of us!"

The vehicle's Ontario marker is MS7 725.

Anyone with information about either incident is asked to call Haliburton Highlands OPP at 705-286-1431, or report a tip anonymously to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or online at khcs.ca.

For updates to this story as they become available visit highlanderonline.ca.

Man dies on 35

By Mark Arike
Staff writer

An 81-year-old Coboconk man died after losing control of his vehicle on Highway 35 near Ravine Road in Minden on Jan. 3.

According to police, James Corbett lost his life in a single-vehicle rollover, which occurred around 8 a.m. The OPP's investigation revealed that a red 2005 Pontiac Wave was travelling northbound when it failed to negotiate a turn and entered the west ditch, causing the vehicle to roll over onto its passenger side. The car was located down a steep embankment off the roadway.

"When we got on scene we got ready to extricate, and eventually we did extricate," said Minden Hills fire chief Doug Schell.

"It's just a very unfortunate circumstance. You always hate when anyone suddenly has a car accident and when there's a fatality involved," he said.

In addition to volunteer firefighters, members of the Haliburton Highlands OPP, Haliburton County Paramedic Service, and OPP Technical Traffic Collision Investigators were on scene.

A report by police stated that the weather was clear and road conditions were dry at the time of the accident.

Minden Pharmasave to change hands

By Matthew Desrosiers
Editor

After almost nine years, Minden Pharmasave co-owners Peter Meraw and Richard Smith have sold the business.

In a letter to their customers posted inside the pharmacy, the owners said the decision to sell the business was for personal reasons and does not indicate Pharmasave is under financial duress.

"The decision is motivated by family and

a desire for a better work/life balance," the letter states. "This is a very busy pharmacy with a demanding pace. Its operations can consume a person."

According to the letter, the sale will take effect Jan. 12.

The new owners are Phong Tan, owner of the Fenelon Falls and Bobcaygeon Pharmasaves, and Raj Kashyap, owner of two Pharmasaves located in Peterborough and Barrie.

A third partner is involved in the deal but

was not named in the letter.

While Meraw will no longer be involved, according to the letter, Smith will remain on as a part-time employee. Both co-owners will assist with the transition process.

"This decision has not been easy," the letter states. "The experience of serving you these last few years has been gratifying and will be remembered fondly."

Neither Meraw nor Smith were available for comment on the sale.



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Public Notice

Recovery Strategy for the Golden-winged Warbler

Environment Canada has proposed a Recovery Strategy for the threatened Golden-winged Warbler, as required under the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

In Canada, the Golden-winged Warbler is found only during the breeding season (from around May to August) in the provinces of Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec (with limited breeding in Saskatchewan).

The proposed recovery strategy outlines steps to conserve the Golden-winged Warbler and identifies areas of critical habitat important for the species recovery. Critical habitat for this species consists of:

- habitat that the birds need to carry out life cycle activities (e.g., breeding and foraging); and,
- suitable habitat areas where there is evidence that the birds breed.

The *Species at Risk Act* seeks to protect critical habitat from being destroyed.

You are invited to comment on the proposed recovery strategy for the Golden-winged Warbler and get involved in its recovery. View the strategy and provide your comments online at www.sararegistry.gc.ca (click on link in "New Publications & Reports" section).

For more information, please contact:

Canadian Wildlife Service – Ontario
Environment Canada
4905 Dufferin Street
Toronto ON M3H 5T4
Email: Speciesatrisk_ontario@ec.gc.ca
Fax: 416-739-5845

Please provide your comments by March 1, 2015.

Thank you for helping to conserve Canada's species at risk.

Avis public

Programme de rétablissement de la Paruline à ailes dorées

Environnement Canada a proposé un programme de rétablissement pour la Paruline à ailes dorées, espèce menacée, tel que l'exige la *Loi sur les espèces en péril*.

Au Canada, la Paruline à ailes dorées n'est présente que durant la saison de reproduction (de mai à août environ) dans les provinces du Manitoba, de l'Ontario et du Québec (en plus d'une reproduction limitée en Saskatchewan).

Le programme de rétablissement proposé décrit les mesures qui seraient prises pour protéger la Paruline à ailes dorées et identifie les habitats essentiels pour son rétablissement. L'habitat essentiel pour cette espèce consiste en :

- un habitat dont les oiseaux ont besoin pour mener à bien les activités de leur cycle de vie (p. ex., la reproduction et la recherche de nourriture);
- des zones d'habitat convenables où il est attesté que les oiseaux vont se reproduire.

La *Loi sur les espèces en péril* a pour objectif d'empêcher la destruction des habitats essentiels.

Nous vous invitons à commenter le programme de rétablissement proposé pour la Paruline à ailes dorées et à participer à son rétablissement. Vous pouvez consulter le programme et nous faire part de vos commentaires en ligne, sur le site www.registrelep.gc.ca (cliquez sur le lien dans la section « Nouvelles publications et rapports »).

Pour de plus amples renseignements, communiquez avec :

Service canadien de la faune – Ontario
Environnement Canada
4905, rue Dufferin
Toronto (Ontario) M3H 5T4
Courriel : Especiesenperil_ontario@ec.gc.ca
Télé. : 416-739-5845

Veuillez faire parvenir vos commentaires au plus tard le 1^{er} mars 2015.

Nous vous remercions de contribuer à la protection des espèces en péril.

Highlander news



Public buildings to benefit from federal fund

By Mark Arike
Staff writer

The new year got off to a great start for three municipalities in Haliburton County on Jan. 6 when local MP Barry Devolin announced nearly \$155,000 in funding for accessibility upgrades.

As a result of the federal government's Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF), Community Living Haliburton County (CLHC) is the recipient of \$24,000 to build an exterior ramp, install automated door openers and renovate a washroom; the County of Haliburton will receive \$50,000 to install a lift in the administration building; the Municipality of Highlands East will get over \$48,000 to install two lifts, build an accessible washroom and walkway; and the Township of Algonquin Highlands will receive \$32,500 to install a ramp at their administrative building and make several other improvements.

"Happily, the announcement we got over the Christmas holidays was that we were successful [in our application]," said Teresa Jordan, executive director of CLHC.

"The school's going to be even better," she said.

Jordan added that the enhancements will hopefully spur more activity and encourage other local groups to use the space.

CLHC owns the building, which is located 73 York Street in Haliburton.

For Devolin, a former student at the old Victoria Street School, returning to the building made the visit extra special.

"I actually went to school here," he told those in attendance. "This was my Grade 2 classroom a long time ago."

Devolin explained that when buildings were erected a hundred or so years ago, accessibility wasn't a priority as it is today.

"There were stairs everywhere and there were no ramps. ... People with walkers or other mobility issues had to struggle to



Photos by Mark Arike

Top: MP Barry Devolin, far right, joins Community Living staff and board members after making a federal funding announcement. From left: Patty Babineau, Faye Paul, Teresa Jordan, Cindy Sedore, and board president Gina Atkinson. Above: Devolin speaks to Community Care clients and staff about the federal government's Enabling Accessibility Fund.

get in and out of the building."

The importance of accessibility was brought to the forefront about 25 years ago, he said.

Devolin and his executive assistant, Jamie Schmale, visited each location that will receive funding to officially give them the good news.

"Sometimes it's more rewarding to go to some of these much smaller announcements or investments," he said, pointing out that he saw CLHC clients being brought in through the back door because the main entrance is not yet accessible.

The EAF was initially announced in 2007 as a three-year, \$45 million program to support community-based projects across Canada. In 2010, it was extended with an additional three-year, \$45 million commitment and the creation of a new mid-sized project component.

The Economic Action Plan 2013 extended the EAF on an ongoing basis at \$15 million per year to improve accessibility in facilities throughout the country, including workplaces.

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Editorial opinion

Spinning our wheels

The recent stretch of bad weather has made Haliburton County's roads treacherous, and people are starting to ask why more hasn't been done to make them safer.

Nobody is surprised that roads get slick and messy this time of year and that they take time to clear. However when the main provincial highways that cross our county are this bad, more than 24 hours after the weather hits, that's unacceptable.

Provincial highways are the responsibility of – you guessed it – the province. According to the Ministry of Transportation's website, ploughing should start when two centimetres of snow or slush accumulates on the roadway. Equipment must be deployed within 30 minutes of the start of a winter storm, and contractors have up to 24 hours to get Highway 35 (a Class 3 highway) down to bare pavement after the end of a snow storm. Some other classes of highways require only the centre to be bare after 24 hours, and the rest cleared as conditions permit.

But the problem with road conditions this week isn't due to the province's standards – rather, it's the lack of enforcement of those rules. Complaints about provincial roads include poor and ineffective application of sand or salt, too much snow build-up, and icy patches. It makes driving these roads treacherous.

Carillion, an international company, was awarded the snow ploughing contract for the Bancroft and Huntsville zones. Haliburton County straddles these two zones. Most drivers will tell you they notice a big difference in road conditions passing from one zone to the next, which doesn't make sense. If the same company is maintaining both zones, shouldn't they be the same?

And yet, driving east along Highway 118 to Loon Lake, the roads are often covered in snow until you pass Trapper's Trail, where

they miraculously become bare.

This is the border between the two zones, and it's clear one half is better maintained than the other.

Often you'll hear people talk about the pre-Carillion days, when local contractors maintained these stretches of highways. The roads then – as the stories go – were well-maintained. There's a good explanation for that.

The drivers and owners of these companies were local. Their husbands and wives, parents, children, friends – they all drove the highway. Those road crews were directly responsible for the lives of their neighbours.

They were also directly accountable in a way no multinational company ever could be. You could call them if you had a problem, talk to a real person, and explain your concerns. What's more, you could expect something to be done about it.

Not only is the province awarding multi-million dollar contracts to foreign companies when that money is desperately needed here, but they're risking our safety in the process.

Companies like Carillion don't have to answer to you or me. They answer to government officials who, incidentally, don't seem to answer to you or me, either. There have been countless complaints, both from individuals and our municipal governments, about the conditions of our highways. And still the problems continue.

And why wouldn't they continue? Getting action from the province on this and many issues is like driving on a Haliburton highway: spinning your tires and going nowhere fast.



By Matthew Desrosiers

Say, you want a resolution?

I've never been too big on this annual tradition of proclaiming New Year's resolutions. It seems strange to me to make a personal vow to do or not do something strictly because the calendar turns over. This, however, doesn't stop me from suggesting a whole pile of resolutions for all those around me. I guess you could say my New Year's resolution is to give others their New Year's resolutions.

You're welcome.

For starters how about the new Minden Hills council vows to play nicely together? You know, let's break precedent and hug a little more. Scratch that. Why don't we all just resolve to finally put an end to all these hackneyed dysfunctional Minden Hills council jokes? I think most of them came from me anyway.

And while we're still talking about Minden, let's ask the mighty Gull River to resolve to remain weak once again this spring. Yes I know that given the right (wrong) conditions the river can swell up worse than a bubble boy in pollen season, but for now know full well that we prefer to see your banks very visible. It's quite slimming.

Lastly for Minden, let's vow to get a lot less of that kind of press coverage and more of this kind of press coverage. If you believe in the law of averages, Minden Hills – news wise at least – looks to be in for a big year.

On to Mother Nature. What's with you lately? Since you're a lady I'll limit my description of your default mood over the last twelve months as simply petulant. Did you forget to send us summer last year? And that winter of 2013-14? Either send us cold weather or bury us in snow, but not both. April is traditionally a spring month, not an extension of the ice fishing season. Suffice it to say that my resolution for you is to soften up a bit and let your sun out a bit more. Stop being such a downer.

For forty-year local politician and twelve-time County Warden Murray Fearrey, I think you need to vow to set aside at least four minutes each week where you don't answer any emails, letters, phone calls, faxes or telegrams from your constituents. Take a

breath and smell some flowers. Finally put to rest that rumour that you try to balance budgets in your sleep.

Full-time residents of Haliburton County, resolve to stay positive and friendly, especially during the summer months. While the lineups at the grocery store may seem annoying in the moment, just remember that the place wouldn't even be big enough to host that sort of traffic if it wasn't for the people in that lineup. And traffic jams? Consider it like a free visit to the city except you didn't have to waste all that gas money and you still have a view of the lake.

Tourists, cottagers and part time residents, resolve to constantly remind yourself why you're up here and why you like it up here. Sure you're in a lineup to buy bait, but remember, you're in a lineup to buy bait. Don't make your smile dependent on the exact perfect scenario. Remember, downtown up here is one street and the only smog you're likely to encounter in Haliburton County is coming from your neighbour's 1967 Evinrude.

Next up? Mosquitoes. Your task is simple. Vow to die, and stay dead. We'll try to move on without you.

And finally, in contrast to mosquitoes, the rest of those furry and feathery two and four legged creatures out there. Resolve to not die so much, as in becoming road kill. In fact you might want to form study groups and observe the occasional vehicle whipping past you. I know the concept of an internal combustion engine might be a little complicated for your simpler ways but please accept the fact that you can't outrace a truck or beat an SUV during rutting season. Stay low, hesitate a lot more and learn to be wary of both grills and grilles.

While I admit these resolution tasks may seem a little tough, rest assured that failure is indeed an option. I mean if success was a given, we wouldn't have made this into a silly, mainly fruitless, annual ritual would we?



By Charlie Teljeur

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THE HIGHLANDER'S MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas

To report on issues, people and events important to the community

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

Letters to the editor

Christmas dinner a hit in Wilberforce

Dear editor,

Even though many of the team woke to no hydro on Christmas morning, the power was on at the Community Centre for the Free Community Christmas Dinner in Wilberforce.

Folks came from as far away as Maynooth and Lake St. Peter because their power was out.

Dinner was served right on time thanks to a crowd of willing volunteers. What a meal it was!

Our friendly Master Chef, Ron, volunteered his skills and many hours of his time to create a banquet fit for royalty.

Dinner guests filled the hall and stayed on to enjoy great music from Albert Saxby, Clara Burt, the Buchans and young friends. The old traditional Christmas carols brought back fond memories for many; while Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer brought a smile, and Albert kicked it up a

notch with his very own folksy style. Special thanks to our local businesses and community organizations who supported the dinner.

The Lion's Club - Haliburton
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Algonquin Gateway Business Association
Master's Bookstore

A very special thank you to Digger Lanois, president of the Haliburton Chapter of Heaven's Saints Motorcycle Ministries, for using his God-given organizing skills to pull it all together.

Thanks Wilberforce! You're a great community!

Lynn Binskin
Wilberforce

Thank you to on-call workers over the holidays

Dear editor,

I'd just like to take a moment and give special thanks to the guys who came out at Christmas to install and replace the hydro poles and power lines that were ripped down during a wind storm Christmas Eve at Conway and Embassy. Thanks for getting us up and

running so quickly! I know it's all part of the job, but I'd still like to take this opportunity to thank all those that were on-call, and that make themselves available for emergencies during the holidays.

Doris Austin
Minden Hills

Send your letters to the editor
matthew@haliburtonhighlander.ca

Operation little ice lie

Ice fishing. Is it a bona fide winter sport? I suspect that not many folk go at it with the vigour that they reserve for a slap shot, or the finesse needed to send that perfect stone slithering down the curling rink. There is strategy involved for sure, but it most often includes which pair of mitts to wear and who's bringing the hotdogs. No, ice fishing isn't a winter sport.

Is ice fishing a winter pastime? I have witnessed entire families enjoying a day out on the ice, sort of fishing. Mom, dad and grandparents sat astride ATVs gesturing with tiny fishing rods as they chat and laugh, while kids tear about on the ice having a great time doing what kids do. Everyone seems to be passing the aforementioned time quite happily, so I guess you could call it a pastime. And calling it such would seem to put less pressure on the angler to actually catch anything. But I know that's not the case because me and anyone else who has ever tried to catch a fish through the ice is desperate for a tug on their line but helpless to do anything about getting that tug, other than to drill another tiny hole somewhere else in the acres, miles of ice stretching out before them and hope that a particularly stupid fish swims past and

blunders into their hook. We so so want to hook a fish but all we catch is a cold, and may be a nasty bout of sarcasm when we return home empty handed yet again. And so you see, I have come to the conclusion that there is some form of trickery going on here, a grand ice fishing conspiracy that all you local folks are in on, and us Outsiders, be we city folks or gullible Englishmen, are caught up in. I say ice fishing, don't believe the hype! I reckon that somewhere back in the depths of time the Chamber of Commerce asked members to come up with a scheme to attract more tourists here in wintertime. They ummed and erred over the usual 'winter fare', 'outdoor skating rink' ideas until someone suggested ice fishing. After everyone had finished laughing loudly, the person whose idea it was beckoned everyone come closer. And then, with the town's business great and good all leaning in, came the plan to dupe outsiders into thinking that you could actually catch fish through the ice. The details remain cloudy to this day but go to the barber's, tackle store or Kosy Korner and you'll hear tales of monster lakers, walleye and perch being pulled

Photo of the week



Eagles chill on the ice at Mountain Lake.
Photo by Ray Stephenson

Community to thank for great Christmas

Dear editor,

Thank you to an incredibly generous community! The 2014 Minden Food Bank Christmas Basket committee wishes to thank everyone for their support of the families, especially the children, in need this past Christmas. The amazing generosity and kindness of the whole community, businesses and individuals alike, allowed us to provide a special Christmas for many people in the Minden-

Kinmount area. They were provided with a delicious Christmas dinner, additional food for families, and wonderful presents for the children. This kind of special gift only happens when volunteers like you give from the heart. We thank you for being so generous and wish you an awesome 2015. Ron Reid
Chair, Minden Christmas Basket Program

The Outsider



By Will Jones

through holes in the ice. Names of lakes where these fish were caught will be sketchy, or at best, one of those like Grass Lake, which could mean any of three or four lakes in our county. And pictures, yes there are plenty, of people on frozen lakes, bundled up against the cold, holding board-stiff fish. I make note of the rigidity of these fish because I believe that they have come direct from someone's freezer or the local grocery store. They probably died some weeks ago, either here during open-water season, or on some fish farm many miles away. I bet the conspiracy is county-wide, probably endorsed by the county warden of years back, by whom I have to mean His Right Honorable Mr. Fearrey because I cannot recollect there being another warden, ever! I see him sat at the head of the table with a glint in his eye and a sly smile passing the resolution to accept the Chamber's plan to put 'Operation Little Ice Lie' into action. And you know what? I don't think I've truly plumbed the depths of the conspiracy yet; the devious lengths that you people will go to to keep up this charade that fishing through the ice can actually work. If I ever do catch a decent fish through

the ice I'll whoop and cheer for sure, but at the back of my mind I'll be wondering whether some conniving local has been sent down in scuba gear to hook up a frozen monster and give my line a tug. The same local that to date has routinely swam underneath me standing shivering on the lake surface and past my fishing hole, just to give me something to get excited about as a blob appears on my electronic fish finder. Now, I know I shouldn't be so bitter especially as it's only the start of the ice fishing season and I'm off on my annual ice fishing trip with the barber and chums at the weekend, but that's the way I see it. I'll go there hoping to catch, but all the while thinking that the stories they tell, the monsters they caught, always 'just a few years ago', are giant fibs, all for the benefit of their English 'buddy'. All for the real pastime, or even sport, of keeping Haliburton's great ice fishing conspiracy under wraps and continuing to reel in us suckers.

Highlander opinion

Eye on the street: *Have you made any New Year's resolutions?*



Edward Earl
Haliburton

Most likely I will. It is something everyone thinks about. It will be to try and stay healthy and help others.

Inga Richards
Minden

Yes, because it will be good for my health. I quit smoking for 10 years and now I am going to try again. You have to do it for yourself and not for anyone else.



Terry Davis
Haliburton

No. I have never made one and I do not think that I will start now.

Judy Neimann
Drag Lake

No. I am not very good at keeping them so I do not make them anymore.



Val Balaski
Haliburton

Probably not because I always break them. I try to set goals, and as I achieve them, then I stretch them out.

Photos and interviews by Walt Griffin

Home owners still facing fuel bill chills

By Matthew Desrosiers
Editor

When fuel prices skyrocketed last winter, many families had to choose between heating the home or feeding their families.

Propane soared from \$0.60 per litre to over \$1, some companies even charging as much as \$1.60 per litre to fill the tanks. And while prices this winter have come back down to earth, Tina Jackson, homeless prevention services coordinator for A Place Called Home in Haliburton County (APCH), said local families are still feeling the effects.

"Our agency has a number of programs ... we operate the emergency home energy program," she said. "Through that, we're seeing a lot of people calling in saying they are behind in their Hydro payments, in addition to needing delivery of oil and propane."

Jackson said much of that stems from the cost of fuel last year.

"A lot of it was racked up from last winter," she said. "They couldn't get the extra deliveries of oil and propane. Instead, they turned on space heaters to stay warm and now are in arrears."

Near the end of winter, firewood became scarce across the county. Even those who had the money to buy more firewood simply

couldn't find anyone selling it.

Turning to electric heat proved to be an issue as those costs rose. Add to that Hydro's billing issues, where many customers did not receive bills or collection notices for several months, and the results were large, unmanageable electricity bills.

"Hydro One ceased issuing collection activities for a number of months," Jackson said. "In September they started issuing disconnection calls."

She explained that families with limited means have to prioritize their bills.

"If they don't get a bill for Hydro then they're not going to pay that, they're going to buy food," she said. "After several months, when they get a bill in the thousands, it's overwhelming."

Jackson said one of her clients was over \$8,000 in arrears.

Because some social services require a threat of disconnection before being able to assist financially, the Hydro One billing delays

meant a lot of families were unable to access help with their bills until the fall.

While the Hydro bills continue to be a problem, fuel prices have normalized this winter said Lynn Waugh, manager of the Bancroft and Minden Bluewave Energy offices.

"We're down almost \$0.20 per litre for propane compared to this time last year,"

she said. "It's down a tremendous drop from last year."

Bluewave's prices are currently around the \$0.60 per litre mark for propane, and around a dollar per litre for furnace oil – down about \$0.24 per litre from last year as well.

Waugh said consumers can see that fuel is down just by looking at the gas pumps.

"Everything is doing better that way," she

said. "I can't say what the prices are going to do. Right now, prices are trending around the same. We haven't seen huge fluctuations up or down."

"Hopefully, as long as things don't

completely change there, we should be able to carry on a somewhat affordable winter for the families."

Consumers should be aware that programs are available to help with fuel costs, she said. It's often beneficial to contact your fuel company and ask about programming, pricing, or arrangements.

"We try our best to accommodate our customers," Waugh said.

Jackson started receiving calls for assistance in late September and October, but she said the true spike will come near the end of winter, even if prices are more reasonable.

"If winter continues with the -20 degrees we're experiencing today to the end of February and March, the calls for firewood, oil and propane are going to spike," she said. "It'll be at that point they [clients] will need to reach out for help."

Thanks to a donation from Peter Schleifenbaum of the Haliburton Forest, Jackson said the organization has plenty of seasoned firewood available this year for people in need. Although, if the winter is long and cold like last year, there's no telling how long that will last.

For more information on the emergency home energy program, or to sign up for assistance, call Jackson at 705-306-0565.

We're seeing a lot of people calling in saying they are behind in their Hydro payments, in addition to needing delivery of oil and propane.

Tina Jackson

Homeless prevention services coordinator, APCH



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Highlander business

Businesses give 2014 mixed reviews

By Mark Arike
Staff writer

Some businesses in the Haliburton Highlands report a prosperous 2014, while others say it was on par with previous years.

According to Anthony vanLieshout, broker of record of Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton, sales in real estate were similar to the previous two years.

"The year started out very slowly. I think that was a result of the poor weather and the late spring," said vanLieshout. "We actually had a fairly strong fall."

Based on information from The Lakelands Association of Realtors, 308 improved residential waterfront properties had been sold at the end of November in Haliburton County in comparison to 294 from the previous year. In 2014, 180 improved residential non-waterfront properties went off the market, while 185 sold in 2013.

"I would say probably 75 per cent of the properties are cottages/waterfront, and 23 per cent being residential and two per cent commercial," he said.

VanLieshout would like to see an increase in sales, stating that "the market has been fairly static for a number of years."

He said the county can leverage its current assets and services, such as hospitals, and continue to build upon what's available.

"We can continue to expand on our retirement community. Any industry or businesses – that obviously helps, too."

VanLieshout is optimistic about the upcoming year, in part due to significant events that will draw attention to the area such as the Pan Am Games and the Ontario 55-plus Winter Games.

"I think we'll have a good year and we'll have a good start to the spring, barring any poor weather."

Although more than \$34 million in building permits were issued by the end of November in Dysart, several months saw a decrease in comparison to the previous two years. For example, \$230,000 in permits were issued this past year versus \$718,000 in 2012. This past August and the same month in the previous year fell by about \$1 million below the final numbers in 2012.

"It was a very slow summer for new building," said Aggie Tose, executive director of the Haliburton County Home Builders Association.

"It always takes a couple of years for things to swing and affect our economy up here in construction itself," she said, explaining that it generally takes a couple of years before a slowdown in Toronto's economy affects the local housing industry.

However, between the middle of August to the present time, things have been very busy for tradespeople.

"It's been insane," she said.

Several local accommodators seem to be quite pleased with the past year.

"What I understand, from the people I chatted with, it was a good year," said Sally Moore, chair of the Haliburton Highlands Bed and Breakfast Group.

The group consists of 11 members that are spread out across the Highlands.

"It was not a down year," she said, adding that business was on par with the previous



Robert Moore and his son, Joshua, make a purchase at Stedmans V&S Department Store in Haliburton.

year or above average.

Some locations experienced an increase in the number of international visitors, Moore pointed out.

Stouffer Mill Bed & Breakfast in Minden benefitted due to many of these global travellers.

"Stouffer Mill Bed & Breakfast had one of our better years," said owner Don Pflug.

Visitors from Europe, South America and Asia all booked stays at the bed and breakfast.

While it was "a good year" for business at the Kosy Korner in Haliburton, numbers were down from 2013.

"We attribute that to the poor weather this summer keeping cottagers away and Tims [Tim Hortons] moving into town," said Ann Gordon, co-owner of the popular establishment. "We have a very loyal customer base that kept us going."

The restaurant was renovated for the new year and new daily menu themes have been developed, said Ann.

Along with her husband Alan, the pair also own Haliburton and Wedgewood RPM. According to Alan, 2015 was a great year.

"People are getting to know us now and we have had many return customers," he said. "The winter snow conditions made snowmobile sales soar and we did very well on the sale of pontoon, aluminum and fiberglass boats."

He added that more full-time employees have been hired in an effort to "help the Haliburton economy."

Business at Canadian Tire Minden was also on the up-and-up.

"It was a fantastic year," said store owner Steve McLean. "Our customer count was way up and our sales were way up."

McLean said he and his staff successfully executed their business plan, which greatly contributed to their end-of-year results.

"I think there's stuff we did intentionally to drive customer satisfaction up, try to get more footsteps in the door ..." he said.

At Stedmans V&S Department Store in

Haliburton, it wasn't quite a record year for sales, according to store owner Andy Glecoff. Business wasn't much better than it was in 2013, he said, adding, "We're managing to hold our own."

Factors that made it a challenging year for the retail store, he said, included the popularity of online shopping, out-of-town purchases and the current state of the economy.

"I don't think the visitors were here like we normally have," he said.

When asked what could boost business in the retail sector, Glecoff simply stated "jobs."

"When you've got 42 per cent of the people in Haliburton living below the poverty line, there's not much available to us," he said.

In speaking to many local business owners, the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce has also heard good things about 2014.

"Generally what I'm hearing is that it was a better year," said chamber manager Rosemarie Jung.

One business owner told Jung that business was down 10 per cent at the start of the year but eventually bounced back, resulting in a net increase of 10 per cent at the end of the year.

"That's kind of what I'm hearing from a majority of the people I've been talking to," she said.

Those who have been successful, said Jung, have focused on their marketing efforts and reviewed their customer base.

"They were able to identify ways to improve on their business. They had a really good understanding of who their market was and how to better deliver goods and services that their market was interested in."

Moving forward, Jung is optimistic about the current year and what it has in store for the business community.

"We're seeing a lot of people walking through our doors, and new business ideas and ventures coming to the community," she pointed out. "So we're excited about what lies ahead."



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, January 15:
January Chamber Breakfast
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.



Jason Dennison from the Workforce Development Board will give a demonstration of the NEW Labour Market Gateway tool, which will provide local, current and relevant labour market information for the Haliburton Highlands.

Find out about how your job postings with the Chamber will have a greater impact, and what the Labour Market Gateway can do for you!



Location: Red Umbrella Inn,
1075 Red Umbrella Rd,
Carnarvon
Cost: \$15

Please RSVP to lauren@
haliburtonchamber.com or call
(705) 457-4700

Don't forget! January 28, 2015 is the deadline for Nominations for the 9th Annual Business & Community Achievement Awards

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Highlander news

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HAPPENING THIS WEEK!

Thurs Jan. 15 @ 9:00 am
COTW MEETING

Council will consider proposed amendments to the Fees and Charges Bylaw for the Poker Lakes

In case of emergency please Dial 9-1-1. For all other municipal emergencies please call 1-866-856-3247.

COTW/Council

Jan 15

9:00 am, COTW meeting,
Minden Council Chambers
NEW public session 9:00 am

Jan 29

9:00 am, Council meeting,
Minden Council Chambers
NEW public session 9:00 am

WEEKLY IN JANUARY

Tuesdays - 7:00 pm, Euchre Night,
Lochlin Community Centre.
Drop-ins welcome

Wed & Sun – 12:00 to 2:00 pm, Public
Skating, S.G Nesbitt Memorial Arena.
Helmets recommended. Children
must be accompanied by an adult.
Skate rental/sharpening not available.
Donations accepted.

Wednesdays – 7:00 pm, Euchre Night,
Irondale Community Centre.
Drop-ins welcome

Visit www.mindenhills.ca/calendar/ for
these and other events

Employment Opportunity

Municipal Clerk

We are currently seeking a full time
Municipal Clerk. Visit www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/,
call 705-286-1260 ext 313
or email sprentice@mindenhills.ca
for more information.

Winter Notices

Sand – is available at the SG Nesbitt
Memorial Arena parking lot. Individual
use only, no commercial users please.

Parking – overnight parking is
prohibited on municipal roadways
from Nov 1 to Apr 30. Vehicles may be
ticketed/towed at owner's expense.

Riverwalk/Boardwalk Use – Logger's
Crossing bridge & boardwalk are
cleared of snow but are not sanded or
salted. The Riverwalk does not receive
winter maintenance.

Residents are advised to please
use caution.



TORONTO 2015 Pan Am Games Torch Relay

We are working with TO2015 to finalize
our community's participation in the Pan
Am Torch Relay and hosting the Pan Am
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welcoming Pan Am spirit on
the 41-day journey towards the
lighting of the cauldron on July 10, 2015 to
officially open the Games.



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Photo selection juried by the Gallery
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Life. Entry forms can be obtained on our
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NATURE'S PLACE

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology Ongoing until Mar 20th

What are Dead Zones? How are they
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This exhibit explores the dangers,
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30 Years 30 Artifacts Ongoing until Jan 31

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Highlander arts

Quaker Oaks: a farm, a gateway and Highlands booster

The man-made boundaries that define our county thankfully do not hold most of us in, though it's surprising just how many people are quite content for their world to stretch no further. But for those of us in the arts there's a need travel outside our borders in order to acquire additional stimulation and inspiration.

And taking day trips can be a great way to see just how far the cultural influences of our county stretch. Highlanders travel outside the county for diverse reasons, and some common destinations to the south are Peterborough and Orillia.

In Peterborough it's not uncommon to see exhibitions by Haliburton area artists in various art galleries, and on the way to Orillia, near Seabright, many travellers have discovered a small gateway to our county called Quaker Oaks Farm. For those of you who don't know Quaker Oaks it's located at 789 Monck Rd (County Rd 45), about half way between Norland and Orillia.

The farm, which includes an animal sanctuary, consists of a big barn, several outbuildings, and a red-painted store which sits close to the road. The store is hard to miss because in the summer months, a life-sized statue of the cartoon character Betty Boop stands outside, and there's a unique wind-operated whirligig in the adjacent field, which also attracts the eye. There's a house on the farm too, where owners Mark and Judy Spurr reside.

The Spurrs are an interesting couple. They purchased the farm about 30 years ago. But for 15 of those years Mark was going back and forth to Toronto (where the couple previously lived) in order to operate the Riverdale Farm which was located in Cabbagetown.

"But the Quaker Oaks Farm is the product of our creative minds," Mark Spurr said, when I talked to him recently.

Mark has a Quaker background and there

are many oak trees on the Seabright property, hence the name of the farm.

"When we moved here permanently about 15 years ago we had no jobs so we grew vegetables which we sold by the side of the road, and the store evolved from the one room garage," he explained.

Nowadays, when visitors enter the store they are met by a cornucopia of visual and gastronomic delights. There are all sorts of oddities and artworks to peruse and purchase, and if you're hungry Mark or Judy will make you a delicious sandwich. Over the years they've become well-known for their stuffed olives and butter tarts, and recently, with the purchase of a new stove, they're making apple and pear dumplings.

High up on the walls, visitors will see souvenir pennants from all over the place, and Mark has also decorated additional wall space with old album covers, most of them representing classic pop music from the 60s and 70s.

"The store is full of personal history," Mark said. "It's a funky feast for the eyes and it's a great way to start conversations with our customers."

Quite a few of those customers are people who are going to and from Haliburton County, and the Spurrs are big boosters of the Highlands.

"When we came here we suffered from culture shock," Spurr said. "But gradually, through the people we met who travel the road, Haliburton became a cultural beacon. We attended several music concerts in the village, and Haliburton became our second hometown, after Orillia."

In fact, the Spurr's oldest son Aden took a course in glassblowing at the School of the Arts. His instructor was Terry Craig, the well-known glass artist, who, along with wife Jennifer Wanless-Craig, operates the Artech Studio in Tory Hill. After his course was over

Aden worked for the Craigs for a couple of years.

There are several connections to the Highlands within the store.

"The front counter came from the old Banks General Store in Haliburton," Spurr said.

When he was refinishing the counter he came across an old 1868 Canadian penny which had slipped down into the crown moulding.

"I still have that penny."

A closer look around the store reveals a Haliburton County Folk Society display rack which features CDs by musicians from the Highlands, and my cottage country mystery novel 'Lonely Lake' is for sale there too. The store also acts as an unofficial tourist information centre for people going to the Highlands.

"We educate people about Haliburton County before they actually get there," Spurr said.

The Spurrs are now empty nesters so they're looking forward to "spending more time growing vegetables, creating public access to the animal sanctuary and filling the farm full of artwork and fantasies."

Mark is also looking for a couple of special pennants.

"We have no pennants from either Minden or Haliburton," he complained with a chuckle. "If there's anybody out there with those pennants they'd be great to add to our collection."

Seeing our own art, literature, and music in locations outside our county tends to make us proud to be Highlanders, and the stories contained within places like the Quaker Oaks Farm can both entertain us and inspire us to keep on creating, and incidentally, promoting the county through our efforts.

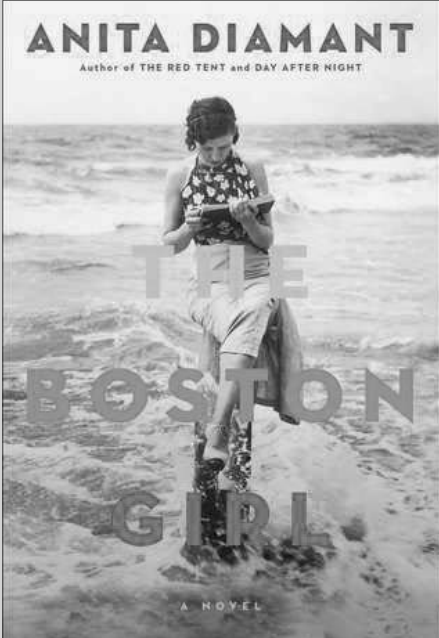


By George Farrell

What's Up

Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are popular new additions to the Haliburton County Public Library's collection this week.

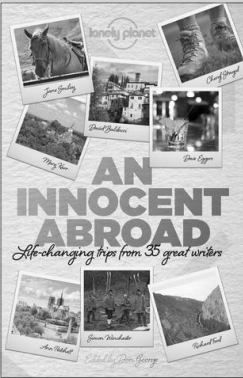


HCPL's TOP FICTION

1. *The Boston Girl* by Anita Diamant
2. *The Big Finish* by James W. Hall
3. *Full Force and Effect* by Tom Clancy

HCPL's TOP NON-FICTION

1. *Lonely Planet: An Innocent Abroad* edited by Don George
2. *Robin Williams: when the laughter stops 1951-2014* by Emily Herbert
3. *On Immunity: an inoculation* by Eula Bliss



HCPL's TOP JUNIOR TITLES

1. *The Ghosts of Heaven* by Marcus Sedgwick (YA)
2. *Zoobots: wild robots inspired by real animals* by Helaine Becker (JNF)

AUDIO and VIDEO at HCPL

1. *When the Game Stands Tall* (DVD)
2. *Vertigo 42: a Richard Jury mystery* by Martha Grimes (Book on CD)

LIBRARY NEWS

"What should I read next?" Like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, or find us on Pinterest and get some great reading recommendations from HCPL. You can also join our Online Book Club on Goodreads which features four selections every month. For links, go to our website at www.haliburtonlibrary.ca.

Psychic shares memorable stories

By Matthew Desrosiers
Editor

Cassandra Hart believes everyone has the potential for psychic ability, which is one of the things that inspired to her write 'Adventures of a Mystic Medium – Amazing True Psychic Stories, Tips and Truisms.'

"I really believe everybody has intuition," she said. "I started realizing ... that a lot of people have gut feelings or that little voice. That's our intuition, but I call it our GPS. I know from my own personal experience when I don't listen to that little voice, I often regret it."

Hart has been a practicing psychic for 25 years, but she's been having psychic experiences regularly since she was in her twenties. Her skills include precognition, the ability to act as a medium between the living and those who have passed on, and medical intuition.

She comes from a family of psychics. "My grandmother was psychic," Hart recalled. "She could see spirits. My mother

predicted the man I was going to marry the first time she met him. She has the gift to read auras. And I think one of my grandchildren might be, but I'm not sure yet."

The book was a way for Hart to document her own experiences.

"I wanted to do this to document it as family history," she said. "That was my purpose for writing it even if it was never published."

But it was. 'Adventures of a Mystic Medium' was published in May and has been selling well ever since.

The book is a compilation of Hart's more memorable psychic experiences, the first of which dates back to 1963. Each experience is detailed in a short, two or three-page story.

"The stories are there to prove yes, they exist," she said. "The second part of the book is tips for you to develop your own psychic ability."

Hart's first book, 'The Sovereign Soul: A Story of Personal Power,' was published in 2006 and had quite a different tone.

"It is my story, but it was written through a character," she said. "At the time I was

writing it, I had left an abusive relationship of 23 years, so I wanted some anonymity in the book."

The book chronicled how women are socialized to give their power away, she said. It follows the life of the character, and how society socialized her to believe that what she sees with her five senses is all there is, and to believe that men were more capable and smarter.

The book was part of her 12-step program of recovery – though she was never addicted to drugs or alcohol.

But she's come a long way since then, which is evident in the tone of her newest publication.

"Having done a lot of emotional work, having done the 12 steps and having had some counselling, I have really become comfortable in my own skin," Hart said. "I've been able to tap into intuition and use it to recognize how grateful I am for the life I have, and being useful [to others]."

Hart said most of the people she gives readings to find it helpful in some way.

Highlander arts

Bassist rocks on with emerging metal band

By Mark Arike
Staff writer

Just over two years ago, Haliburton native Chela Harper took on the task of becoming the bassist for Coal Chamber, a popular nu metal band that rose to fame in the 90s.

After travelling across the globe with the group as part of their reunion tour, Harper joined forces with an up-and-coming metal band known as White Empress.

"I had a couple of other recording projects that I was involved in," said Harper, referring to musical endeavours separate from Coal Chamber.

A year ago she was contacted by Mary Zimmer and Paul Allender, both members of the recently-formed band.

"I knew Mary from back in the MySpace days, believe it or not," she said. "This was way before Coal Chamber or anything like that. We had chatted a little bit about working on some music together, on an all-female project I was trying to put together years ago."

Zimmer is a Wisconsin-based singer/vocalist and vocal instructor.

Allender is a guitarist and former member of the British extreme metal band Cradle of Filth.

According to Harper, the two reached out to her after learning that her time with Coal Chamber was coming to an end.

"They were really in the beginning stages [of forming]," she recalled. "The writing process was still going on, and they had not found a bass player."

The band had tried out a few bass players, said Harper, but they weren't a fit.

After hearing just two of their songs, she knew she wanted to be part of the band.

"The only way I would have joined any new

band was if I absolutely loved the music."

The members of White Empress are influenced by different sounds and Harper said their unique style peaked her interest. She described them as "out of the box."

In a 2013 interview with The Age of Metal, Zimmer called White Empress a band "with a fantasy avatar."

Since forming, they have released an album – "Rise of the Empress" – and been signed to the British label Peaceville Records.

Harper is shocked by the following the group has gained so quickly.

"With this style of music, you never really know how people are going to receive something new," she said, adding that the metal group has an "undefined, crossover sound."

Now that their music is out, Harper said the group will do as much touring as possible in 2015.

Along her journey, the 30-year-old musician was recently included in Metalholic's list of the top 15 female hard rock and metal bassists of 2014. She was very surprised to have been voted in by the fans as a favourite.

"It was actually really surprising more than anything. There's a lot of really talented female bassists in metal right now and I totally did not expect my name to come up."

The online magazine's description of Harper highlights her work on White Empress's debut album.

"Her performance shines on the band's debut release, *Rise of the Empress*, giving fans a taste of her true abilities. Her style adds depth to each performance," states the website.

And this past week, the magazine put her in the top 25 women in hard rock and metal for 2014.

Harper was happy to be recognized for her



Photo by Andreas Dunsater

Haliburton bassist Chela Harper is making her mark on the metal music scene.

playing abilities rather than her looks.

"I feel like, in this business, it tends to lean a little more toward that [looks]. If you're female and you're in a band, the first thing people want to talk about is how attractive you are, which is extremely insulting."

Born in Toronto, Harper moved to the Highlands with her mother, Lea Harper, and stepfather when she was 16. She was surrounded by music from an early age. Her father, Carl Harvey, is a member of the well-known Jamaican group Toots and the Maytals.

Her mother is a musician and writer who still resides in Haliburton.

Harper is working on some other musical projects and is studying to become a personal

trainer in her spare time.

"I'm really super interested in physical health and it's just something I just want to get a little more serious about," she said.

When she's not doing music, she can often be found in the Haliburton area.

"I would say I'm there a third of the time."

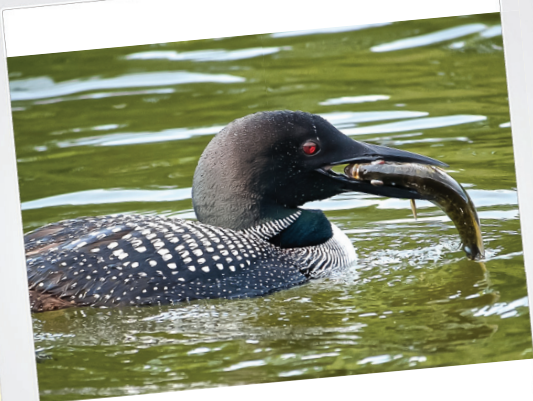
She's excited about her future with White Empress and is eager to be part of the band's evolution.

"It feels brand new in a sense because we've all created something together and we've become really close friends."

To find out more about White Empress or to purchase their music visit whiteempres.com.

Haliburton Highlands Camera Club

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winning images



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Herring Gull
Kathy McKelvey-Brown, Gelert
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Alligator
Amin Shivji, Minden
Novice assigned winner

The Haliburton Highlands Camera Club's members range from amateur to professional skill levels. For more information on the club visit highlandscameraclub.ca.

Nature – Assigned Category

Highlander arts



File photos

The Highlands Opera Studio brings full operas, concerts, and master classes to Haliburton County.

Opera Studio looks ahead to summer season

By **Matthew Desrosiers**
Editor

There's still time to buy your tickets to this summer's Highlands Opera Studio season and take advantage of holiday pricing.

Until January 16, opera lovers can purchase their season pass, which includes a concert, a chamber opera, and the season's main production, the Marriage of Figaro (Le Nozze di Figaro), for \$90. Normally the pass would cost \$102.

Melissa Stephens, company manager of the Highlands Opera Studio, said it's a great way for fans, new and old, to enjoy quality opera right here in Haliburton.

"It's amazing," she said. "You don't have to drive to Toronto for the opera. When people

are sitting there listening, they can't believe it's happening in Haliburton. The singers are from all over Canada, and they're the up and coming next opera stars."

Opera singers from across the country audition to participate in the Highlands Opera Studio. Those selected, roughly 18-20 singers out of 200 who audition, spend five weeks in the Highlands honing their skills and performing.

The season opens on July 30 with Richard Margison's master classes. There, the singers perform for Margison. He critiques them and provides each with a lesson. Tickets are available to sit in on these sessions. The master classes are a great way to ease into opera, Stephens said.

"A lot of people who sing come to learn

stuff from it," she said. "That's the first thing you should do [if you're new to opera]."

Next, Stephens suggests trying a concert. "They're not all heavy opera," she said. "It gives you the chance to hear some of the more popular solos and duets, and sometimes there's an ensemble selection."

This year's concerts include The Art of Song, From Opera to Broadway, and Celebrations!, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Sound of Music.

Stephens said she is most excited for The Vine Dressers, a Canadian chamber opera by Tobin Stokes.

"I'm pumped about Vine Dressers," she said. "It's about the story of the first winery on Pelee Island. I think it's very cool."

The opera is billed as a drama punctuated

by some comic moments. Stephens is hoping Stokes will do a curtain talk after the show, but that's yet to be decided.

The season will wrap up with a full opera performance of the Marriage of Figaro.

"I'm very excited about Figaro," said Stephens.

The opera follows up on The Barber of Seville several years later, and recounts a day of madness in the palace of Count Almaviva.

Stephens said the Highlands Opera Studio makes quality opera accessible.

"The calibre of what we're offering is very, very high, and it's dirt cheap compared to what you pay [elsewhere]," she said.

For more information, or to purchase your tickets, visit highlandsoperastudio.com.

Resolutions

Happy New Year everyone!

Are you thinking about making some New Year's resolutions? We all make them, but how many are actually fulfilled? I myself am tackling the most popular one – weight loss – the worst kept resolution for many decades.

How many Canadians make this promise to themselves and never carry it out? The reasons that many people do not succeed is because it's just not a simple change of one or two things, but your whole lifestyle. You have to change the way you shop, the way you cook and of course increase or add exercise to your daily routine. In

order to be successful you have to have determination and you need to have made a plan. Preparation is the key to changing most things and a resolution made at the stroke of midnight is doomed to fail.

Most Canadians resolve to break bad habits on New Year's Day, but it's estimated that only 40 per cent will still be trying to accomplish their resolution after six months. Rather than making a quick resolution on the spur of the moment, you could decide in December what your resolution will be and formulate a plan ahead of time to increase your chances of success.

Other commonly broken resolutions are

quitting smoking, a habit that is very hard to break at any time even with preparation.

Learning something new, on the other hand, is an easy resolution to keep because it can be as big or little as you want it to be. For example, I am learning radio work beginning in 2015. But you could learn something new every day if you wanted to.

I also resolve to be more thankful for the things we have in this country. I am thankful for my freedom to dress, eat and sleep how I desire. I am glad I live in a place where I can choose any haircut I want. Too many people these days take the freedoms we have for granted.

I want to change my weight in the new year as do many people. What



By **Austin McGillion**

do you want to change in the new year? Hopefully whatever your resolution, you will strive to be successful and I especially wish for you the love and support of your family and friends.

"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbours, and let every new year find you a better man." – Benjamin Franklin

Through my eyes



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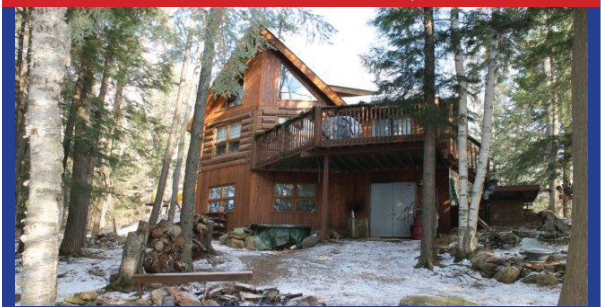
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Highlander sports



Photos by Matthew Desrosiers

Above: Junior curler Ezra Hill practices his delivery during a training session at the Wilberforce Curling Club. Top right: Darrell McQuigge (left) teaches Wilberforce Elementary School student Chelsea Flynn the proper sweeping technique. Bottom right: Ontario Curling Association (OCA) technical director Tom Ward (left) and OCA learning facilitator Tom Sinclair, discuss the possibilities for Wilberforce's junior curling program.

Curling goes to school in Wilberforce

By Matthew Desrosiers
Editor

What started as a fun collaboration between the Wilberforce Curling Club and the community's elementary school has turned into a unique and exciting sports program.

During the 2013-14 curling season, Grade 7 and 8 students from Wilberforce Elementary School (WES) were invited to the club for four sessions to learn about the game. Dave Watson, a member of the club's executive, was put in charge of the program.

"They went one day to the curling club and we did what we could with them in [terms of] instruction," he said. "We ended up having four sessions, just to try and see if it would work."

The results were positive, and at the end of the fourth session the student's teacher recommended they try it again the following year.

"They also recommended that all the other classes have an opportunity to come down," said Watson. "So, during the summer, we sat down and discussed building it into the winter physical education program at the school, because they have no gymnasium there."

He then contacted the Canadian Tire Jumpstart Program to see if they would help purchase equipment for the kids. The program is designed to help individual kids and families pay for sporting equipment they otherwise couldn't afford.

After some discussion, Jumpstart agreed to donate \$3,700 for the club to purchase a safety hat for each of the 63 kids in the program.

The last piece of the puzzle was finding

certified curling instructors. For that, Watson turned inwards to the club and their partners at the Ontario Curling Association (OCA).

The association sent two instructors to Wilberforce to teach what was described as a club-coached youth 'plus' course.

"[We offered a] club-coached youth course with additional time added on for both program instruction and strategy," said Tom Sinclair, learning facilitator with the OCA. "It had more custom stuff to deliver the program that is needed [in Wilberforce], and it was also stretched out. We allowed more time to do what is normally allowed for in the basic course, so it allowed more time for the participants to internalize the information that was being delivered and therefore be a more relaxed and cooperative type of development. We were able to make sure the participants felt comfortable when we left."

Eight club members took the two-day course on Dec. 6-7, which was custom-designed by the OCA instructors to meet the needs of the new Wilberforce program. The course was co-facilitated by Sinclair and Tom Ward, technical director with the OCA.

"We wanted to make sure we were able to leave them in a position where they had enough time to trial things, question things, put enough things into practice so when they are on the ice with the kids, they will feel confident," Sinclair said.

Also, because the program is for Grades 4-8, the instructors need to be able to teach at the entry level for the younger students, and be able to provide more advanced instruction for the older students who have come through the program.

Sinclair, who is also the president of the

Ottawa Curling Club, said the Wilberforce program is pretty unique.

"What makes it really unique is that it is starting from scratch," he said. "It is an elementary school physical education-related program across Grades 4-8. It's a comprehensive program for a very defined group of people, whereas the majority of programs are either for an isolated group within a school, or something more related to club curling."

While it may not be the only program of its kind in the country, Sinclair said it's perfectly suited to a small community like Wilberforce. But what's got Sinclair truly excited is the potential for reaching and developing new curlers.

"We're excited to be at the ground level for a program that has this kind of potential," he said. "I'm involved in curling development in many ways, and this is grass roots at the absolute best that it can be."

During the second day of the instructor course, some of the WES students came out for a supervised lesson with the instructors-in-training.

"It was very much a cooperative excitement," Sinclair said. "Chelsea, [one of the WES students], in the beginning was a little apprehensive and a little concerned about change and the advancement of things, but in a very short period of time she was able to get more comfortable in what she's doing, and that was just in two hours on the ice."

Since the start of the program, Chelsea has continued to improve in her league play as well as in class.

"I'm absolutely confident that there are going to be more cases like Chelsea's, and

you're going to get more demand for curlers to get into some of the leagues."

Sinclair said one of the reasons he expects the program to be successful is the enthusiasm of the newly-trained instructors.

"It takes champions in any area to make a difference in the offering of any kind of program, and specifically curling," he said. "The number of individuals who were so excited to be able to do this for the school is something that's really infectious and it's pretty easy for me to be on that journey with them."

Now that the program is underway, Sinclair is looking forward to seeing the progress of both the students and his instructors. He said it will be a success if the kids are having fun on the ice.

"I want to see smiling kids sliding out of the hack, and enough energy you have trouble controlling it within the club," he said. "What you saw with Chelsea from one week to the next, I'm looking to see that on a wider level – the advancement of all the kids, knowing that we have a huge number of kinds that, for them, this is a brand-new activity. I'm looking to see where it can go within the timeframe from where I was for the course to where I go back."

He's hoping to return to Wilberforce for a follow-up. Sinclair said he'll be looking to see how comfortable the instructors have become.

"I know with [these] instructors, they're going to be all over that to make sure this thing becomes a real success," he said. "I'm confident this is going to be a tremendous program for Wilberforce, and I just believe this thing is going to change many kids' lives."

Highlander sports



Photos by Mark Arike

Above left: Cody Bain shoots a pass over to Matt O'Reilly. Top: Nick Thompson finds himself surrounded by the Rams' defense. Above right: Jalen Campbell attempts to reach the paint. Above middle: Angus Sullivan keeps his eye on the action.

Red Hawks struggle after holiday hiatus

By Mark Arike
Staff writer

The senior Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Red Hawks basketball team was trounced 46-19 by the St. Peter's Saints in their first game after the holidays on Jan. 7. However, later that afternoon, the team regained their confidence to put on a much stronger performance against the Kenner Rams.

Unfortunately, a power outage killed their buzz and put an abrupt end to the game early in the third quarter. According to the team's coach Dave Waito, the rules state that a game must be called off if the power hasn't come back on within 20 minutes.

"I don't know what that will mean for results from this game," Waito told The Highlander.

Both teams were neck and neck in the first quarter, but the Hawks increased the gap in the second to finish off the game with a 17-13 lead.

Waito said the team "looked like they did at the alumni game" last month.

"We were all on the same page and we were focused on what we were doing. It seems to be that when they bring it on defence, it translates into offence really quick," he explained.

Although the Hawks ran into more foul trouble than their opponents, Waito wasn't particularly concerned about it. He said it means the boys are playing aggressively.

"It would bother me more if we got to the end of the game and only had one foul. It would mean that we really weren't trying hard enough."

Will Stephenson had four points in the first quarter, both of which were a result of turnovers. The team's overall leading scorer, Hunter Smith, was "looking to get active," said Waito, and Angus Sullivan continues to hold his own as the Hawks' "big defensive guru."

Newcomer Cody Bain has also impressed Waito with his performance to date.

"He's just picked it up on his aggression on the inside," he said.

"He's grown to be one of the guys on the floor that I don't want to take off."

In order to help shake off the holiday

jitters, the team will focus on their physical conditioning and reviewing their offensive strategy, he said.

At the start of the season, Waito's goal was to finish off at the .500 mark. Heading into the holidays his team's record was 2-3. When taking into account the exhibition alumni game and the game against the Rams (if they are declared victorious), they would stand at 4-4.

"It's hard to have two weeks off and then hit the ground running again, but that's what I liked about having these two games today," said Waito. "Hopefully we can use that as momentum going into next week."

The senior team will face LCVI on Jan. 12 at the high school. Tip-off time is 3 p.m.

Highlander sports

Minden CARQUEST Midget B Girls Submitted by Dan Marsden

The Minden CARQUEST Midget B Girls travelled to Peterborough on Saturday night for their first game after the school winter break.

The Storm showed some rust as they took to the ice to challenge the Ice Kats for first place bragging rights. After a scoreless first period, Alicia McLean opened the scoring in the second period with a goal mouth forehand-backhand deke to fool the Ice Kat tender. Erin Little put the Storm up 2-0 with a beauty top-shelf wrister finishing off a neutral zone rush.

The Ice Kats tried to claw their way back late in the second where they slapped in a goal mouth scramble 2-1 marker. The Storm continued to step up their level of play in the third period and shut down the Peterborough offensive attack as well as adding three more unanswered goals to solidify the 5-1 first place win. Kenndal Marsden scored on the power play with a wrister from the point, McLean added her second of the game and Kelsey Maracle rounded out the scoring finishing off a late period rush with a snap shot going high glove side. It was a great team effort girls, battling through weather, bumps, bruises and ouchies.

Our next home game is Jan. 6 at 8 p.m. in Haliburton. The Lindsay Lynx are in town at the A.J. LaRue arena. The Storm will use the game to help them gear up for the Orillia Hawks Tournament this weekend, Jan 9-11.

Canadian Tire Novices

Submitted by Tracey Gilbert

The Canadian Tire Novices had a great holiday season and hope that all of their fans did as well. They had some time off but also played some great games over the last couple of weeks.

On Dec. 19, they travelled to Wilberforce to face the Bancroft Jets. With a few wins against this team under their belts they knew what they were in for. They skated hard, played as a team and came out on top once again with an

8-0 win.

The Storm faced the Oro Thunder on Dec. 27, a team that is undefeated. They played hard but the game ended in a 6-0 loss for the Storm.

The team travelled to Tweed on Jan. 2 to participate in a one-day tournament. They had a fantastic day and played as a team. The first game had them facing the Port Hope Phantoms. The Highland Storm started the game off with the first goal and battled hard the entire game. They squeaked by with a 4-3 win. The second game of the day had the Storm playing a team from Quebec, Les Seigneurs de Soulange. The Highland Storm walked away with a 17-0 win, putting them in the A finals against the Centre Hastings Grizzlies. This game proved to be the Storm's toughest game of the day. They gave it their best but ended up short in the end, the final score being 4-2 for Centre Hastings. In all it was a great day and the team played well.

The Canadian Tire Novices then played the Huntsville Otters on Jan. 3, where they took their fifth loss of regular season.

Come cheer on the Highland Storm Novices at their final regular season game in Minden on Jan. 10 at 1:30 p.m., when they face the South Muskoka Bears.

Minden Pharmasave Peewee A

Submitted by Cheryl Patterson

On Dec. 29, the Minden Pharmasave Highland Storm Peewee A team headed to Lakefield to compete in the Marshall Memorial Peewee Tournament.

The first game was against the Ennismore Eagles. This game was interesting as it may prove to be a playoff match-up down the road. Less than three minutes into the first period, Highland Storm's Zach Morissette scored, assisted by Joe Boice. The boys all fought hard to preserve the one-goal lead, but with three minutes left in the third period, Ennismore managed to tie the game, resulting in a 1-1 final.

In the second game, the Highland Storm met the Baltimore Ice Dogs. Morissette scored in the first period and Boice in the second, both assisted by Nigel Smith. Ryan Hall scored in

the third period, assisted by Boice, and the team finished the game with a 3-0 shutout.

The Highland Storm advanced to the championship game versus the Woodville Hurricanes. In a very evenly matched game, Highland Storm's Tyson Clements, assisted by Isaac Little, scored 11 seconds into the first period, and that was to be the only goal scored in the game. Congratulations to goalie Ethan Glecoff, who allowed only one goal against in the tournament. Congratulations to the entire Highland Storm Peewee A Team for working hard and playing three solid games of hockey to come away with the championship! Well done team!

RM Carpentry Atom A

Submitted by Jason Glecoff

On Jan. 3, the Highland Storm played a double-header against the Parry Sound Shamrocks.

The Storm was raging from the opening faceoff of Game 1. In the first, defenceman Mills stepped up to a loose puck squirting out of the crease and hammered it home for the 1-0 lead. Things calmed down in the second, but the Storm didn't let up, with some solid forechecking from Winder, Phippen and Boom Boom. Then a shot from the Parry Sound point was handled by Storm goalie Maddock, but the Shamrocks jumped on the rebound, making it 1-1.

Late in the second, Glecoff took the puck coast to coast and let a shot go in the crease. The goalie made a nice save, but as Boom Boom and Phippen swung at the rebound, the puck found the back of the net to take the lead 2-1. Despite the Shamrocks pulling the goalie late in the third, the Storm hung on to their thin lead for the win.

After a lunch time layover, Parry Sound wanted revenge in Game 2, fresh after their first loss to the Storm this year. But the Storm took the lead at 27 seconds into the first, with a goal from Phippen and Vargas. Glecoff, with one of his end to end rushes, crashed the net and took a goaltender interference penalty, which led to a Shamrock power play goal to tie the game. In the second, Winder walked out from the corner behind the Parry Sound net, evaded the goalie's poke,

and scored to take the lead 2-1. In the third, the Storm dominated the game with aggressive forechecking from the entire roster, suffocating the Shamrocks. Maddock came up big to protect the lead with some highlight reel saves. Winder added another with a precision shot from below the goal line that rebounded off the back of the goalie. The Storm took this one 3-1, winning both games of the double header and sending a message to the team that we will most probably meet in the first round of the playoffs.

Tom Prentice & Sons Tykes

Submitted by Andrea Prentice

The Tom Prentice & Sons Tyke team had some tough competition this past weekend. The Storm worked hard on Jan. 2, but it wasn't quite enough to pull out a win against the South Muskoka Bears. The Storm outshot the Bears, but their goalie stood strong, with a defeat of 5-4.

The next day, the Storm took on the Muskoka Rock in Minden. This game, again, challenged our team. The Storm held their ground, with shot after shot, ending in a 4-4 tie. Great team work by all.

The team's next face off will be Jan. 11 at 4 p.m. in Bracebridge.

Smolen Dentistry Bantam A

Submitted by Susan Haedicke

The Bantam A team lost 4-3 against the Huntsville Otters last Friday. It was an exciting game, as the Storm knew that Huntsville would be a challenge.

Although Huntsville was dominating the first period, the Storm managed a rush, a couple of shots and Patterson-Smith snapped it in, giving the team a 1-0 lead. Minutes into the second, the Otters tied it up. Cooper managed a sweet wrap around, half way through the second and the Storm took the lead, which didn't last long. Flood pushed hard, stole the puck and scored, unassisted, but once more the Otters answered back. It was late in the third when the Otters got the go-ahead goal and time ticked away before the Storm could react.

HighlanderTV

This week: Highland Storm cheer on Matt and Cody in Buffalo
see video at HighlanderOnline.ca



Events calendar

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20					21				22			23		
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53					54	55	56				57	58	59	60
61				62	63		64				65			
66							67				68			
69							70				71			

- ACROSS
1. Festive event

5. Emerald ____

9. Guinness and Baldwin

14. Happily ____ after

15. Go by boat

16. Gent (sl.)

17. Leonardo's "____ Lisa"

18. Takes legal action

19. Whole

20. Snooty person

21. Below

23. Raw material

24. Notion

26. Stadiums

29. Gave back

32. At no time

34. Baking places

35. Custodian

39. ____ diem

40. Soup cracker

42. Negative vote
43. Count
45. Baggy
47. Foe
48. Pleases greatly
49. Beethoven work
52. Corrosion
53. Lincoln's nickname
54. Pointed weapon
57. Tourists' aids
61. Poke fun at
64. Roof part
65. She (Fr.)
66. Colorado resort
67. Difficult journey
68. On a cruise
69. Homes for birds
70. ____ Fitzgerald
71. Borrowed money

- DOWN
1. Valuable stones

2. English river

3. Carson's successor

4. Horse breed

5. Published

6. Steam bath

7. Fibbed

8. If not

9. Rearward

10. Zodiac sign

11. Singer ____ John

12. Barton or Bow

13. Bargain events

22. Black bird

25. Disagreement

27. Narrates again

28. Pitcher's stat

29. Strong cord

30. Smooth

31. Lima's locale

32. Dapper

33. Historic canal

35. Chowder ingredient
36. Tie
37. Relieve
38. Deli breads
41. Locales
44. "Oh, give ____ home...'
wds.)
46. Hot cereal
48. Cry of discovery
49. Lucifer
50. Chubby
51. Lowest tides
52. Fray
55. Tennis's ____ Sampras
56. Nobleman's title
58. As well
59. Guilty, e.g.
60. Actor ____ Penn
62. Clique
63. Printers' measures

JANUARY 2015 EVENTS

THURSDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

FRIDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

Fur & Flintlock - Yours Outdoors, 705-754-3436

SATURDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

Fur & Flintlock - Yours Outdoors, 705-754-3436

SUNDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

Razzamatatz Kids Shows - Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, 2pm - 4 pm

MONDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

TUESDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

WEDNESDAY

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

Dorset Yoga Classes - Dorset Recreation Centre, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Dorset African Hand Drumming Class - Dorset Recreation Centre, 10:00 am - 11:00 pm

THURSDAY

CFUW guest speaker - Amanda Ranson, Haliburton County tourism director Fleming College, 1:30 p.m.

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

FRIDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

SATURDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

SUNDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Make Peace with Winter - Yours Outdoors, 705-754-3436

MONDAY

30 YEARS 30 ARTIFACTS - Minden Hills Museum, 10 pm - 5 pm

The Dead Zones: Lake Ecology - Natures Place, 10 am - 5 pm

Horse Drawn Sleigh Rides - Irvin Holland, 705- 448- 9078

WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LEGION JAN 8 - JAN 14, 2015

Haliburton Branch

General meeting, 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Ladies Auxiliary, last Thursday, 1 p.m.

Meat draw, Friday, 4:30-6:30 p.m. \$2/draw.

50/50 draw, Saturday, 4 p.m.

Breakfast, 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9:30-1 p.m.

Bridge, Monday 1 p.m.

Open dart night, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Bid Euchre, Wednesday, 1 p.m.

Bingo \$500 jackpot, \$1,000 jackpot on last Wednesday of the month

Country Hot Flashes, Jan. 17 4-7 p.m.

Minden Branch

Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, 12-2 p.m.

Seniors “B-d” Euchre, Tuesday, 1 p.m.

Meat Draw, Wednesday, lunchtime.

Creative Crew, Thursday, 10 a.m.

Ladies darts, Thursday, 1 p.m.

Euchre, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 5-7 p.m.

Mixed darts, Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Sports Fan Day, Sunday, 12-4 p.m.

Wilberforce Branch

Ladies Auxiliary meeting, Thursday, 1 p.m.

Pool, Friday, 1:30 p.m.

Jam session, Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Meat draw, Saturday, 2 p.m.

L.A. Breakfast, Sunday, 9 a.m. til noon

Bid euchre, Monday, 7 p.m.

Fun darts, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

** No karaoke until further notice

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3	2	6	1	7	4	5	8	9
1	8	9	5	2	6	4	7	3
7	4	5	8	3	9	6	1	2

THE TOWNSHIP OF
MINDEN HILLS
 IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON



Blue Box



Recycling in Minden Hills

Recycling is accepted at the Scotchline and Irondale landfills as well as the Ingoldsby, Ironmine and Little Gull transfer stations. There is no charge for recycling at any site.

WE ACCEPT:

Boxboard & Mixed Paper: Household and office paper; junk mail, envelopes, writing, computer and wrapping paper, greeting cards; cereal, detergent, tissue and shoe boxes; paper towel and toilet paper tubes; fibre egg cartons; plastic-lined cat and dog food bags; paper shopping bags.

Newspapers, Magazines & Books: Newspapers, magazines, catalogues, glossy flyers, advertising inserts, phone books and soft cover books.

Corrugated Cardboard: Cardboard and pizza boxes (no waxed corrugated boxes or soiled pizza boxes). Please flatten all boxes.

Metal Cans & Foil: All tin and aluminum food and beverage cans; clean aluminum foil, pie plates and take-out trays. Please rinse and remove lids on tin cans, place inside can and pinch closed.

Plastic Containers & Lids, Glass Bottles & Jars: Pop and water bottles, yogurt, margarine, ice cream, clear fruit and vegetable containers; ketchup, dish soap, bleach, shampoo and vitamin bottles (marked 1-7 on the bottom); peanut butter jars, plastic milk bags; fabric softener, laundry detergent and windshield washer fluid jugs.

Tetra-Pack Boxes & Plastic Bags: Juice, milk, soup and other "Tetra-Pak" type boxes (no straws); milk, bread, shopping and dry cleaning bags; wrap from toilet paper, paper towels, etc.

"Gable Top" Cartons & Polystyrene (Styrofoam): Polycoat (waxed) milk, juice, sugar and liquid egg cartons; coffee cups and fast food containers; meat and bakery trays, egg cartons. No blue or pink Styrofoam.

Please rinse out bottles, jars and other containers. Do not package fibres in plastic bags.

Recycling must be in blue boxes, or transparent bags which must be taken to a dump.

WE DO NOT ACCEPT:

Cosmetic containers, toothpaste tubes, stretch wrap, insulation, packing Styrofoam peanuts or beads, vinyl siding, shower curtains, blister packs, coat hangers, foil laminates (e.g. foil gift wrap), potato chip bags, tissues, paper towels, bubble or boat wrap, tarps and other large sheets of plastic film.

For more information on this and other environmental initiatives in Minden Hills, please visit www.mindenhills.ca.

Space provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.

Highlander events



Photos by Matthew Desrosiers

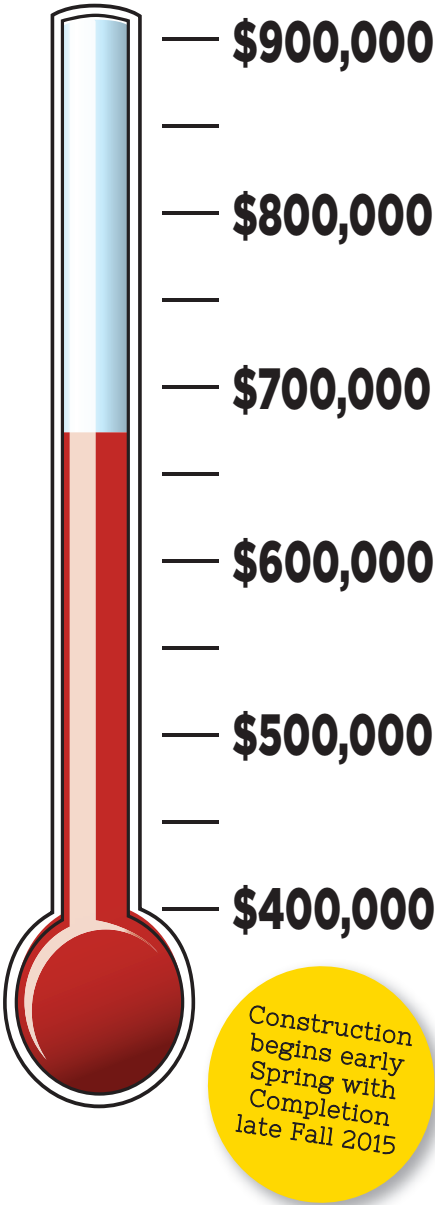
Minden celebrates the new year with family fun event

From ice skating to horse-drawn sleigh rides, Minden families were treated to a fun and friendly New Year's celebration on Dec. 31. Music rocked the S.G. Nesbitt arena from 5:30-8:30 p.m., as disco lights lit the ice for skaters. Outside, visitors warmed their hands near the fire while waiting their turn on the horse rides. Families got home in time to warm up and get ready to ring in the new year. Top: Lyndsie Sharpe, 7, sits astride Nancy the Horse during the Minden Hills family New Year's celebration. Above left: A family skates around the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Above right: Six-year-old Janine Indovina warms up with a well-deserved hot chocolate after skating a few laps around the rink. Once she finished, Janine laced up and got right back on the ice.



Making Moments Matter

Haliburton Highlands Palliative Centre



“Please consider joining us in support of the Making Moments Matter Campaign”

Don Popple & Lisa Tompkins
Campaign Co-Chairs

Together ... Making Moments Matter



705-457-1580 or 705-286-1580
foundation@hhhs.on.ca
www.hhhs.ca/foundation

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS HEALTH SERVICES FOUNDATION

A Foundation for the Health of the Highlands

Highlander classifieds

SERVICES

JUST MOVEMENT
FITNESS Winter session begins January 5th 2015. Minden & Haliburton locations; strength, bootcamp, zumba, step, pilates/core, stretch, lite fitness, boxing, athletic and more. Personal training also available. Call Meghan Reid 705-455-7270 www.justmovementfitness.com (JA24)

J.P.G. DECKS

Installation, Cleaning, Staining. Plus doors, trim, int/ext painting. Quality & Reliability. 705-447-9900 Cell 705-455-2818 jpgdecks@bell.net

BOARDING KENNEL
Individual attention for your pet in a safe and caring environment. By the day, night, weekend, week or extended stays. Minden Area. Contact Margaret 705-488-1279 (JA30)

FROZEN PIPES?

Water lines, septic lines need thawing? Call 705-286-1995.

SERVICES

HIGHLAND APPLIANCES

Home Appliance Repairs. All Makes, All Models. 705-457-1048 13 Industrial Park Rd.

SERENDIPITY – Specializing in window cleaning, general repairs and property maintenance, house cleaning, painting and much more! Licensed, insured, member of Haliburton Chamber of Commerce. Reasonable rates and discounts available for seniors and nonprofit organizations. Call for a quote. 705-934-0714. (TFN)

COMPUTER PROBLEMS?
We fix Macs, PCs, smart phones. Virus removal. Computer sales; in-store, at your home or business. Remote service available. Call Solidstate at 705-457-3962. 62 Maple Avenue, Haliburton. (TFN)

SERVICES

STEP IT FITNESS Winter session. Classes begin Monday, Jan 12th. Pilates Mon-Wed at 4:50pm; Aerobics Mon-Thurs at 12:00pm. 10 week sessions located at St. George's Anglican Church. For more information contact Teresa at 705-457-1052, ext 205 or Teresa@thebenefitscoach.com (JA8)

SIMPLY GOOD HOUSEKEEPING – since 1999. Serving Minden, Haliburton, Bancroft areas. Year-round, seasonal, weekly, biweekly, monthly or as needed. Residential, cottage, commercial. Final clean upon moving. Cottage checks in off-season or as needed. 705-448-1178 dogpawldodge@gmail.com. (TFN)

WINDOW CLEANING

by **Squeegee Clean 4 U**. Booking now! Fall & Winter Chimney Sweeping & Roof Shoveling. Free estimates, reasonable, reliable, fully insured. County wide service, call Rick at 705-455-2230.

SERVICES

PARALEGAL SERVICES –small claims, \$25,000. L&T, traffic court, title searches. John Farr, B.A. (Hons.) LL.B – 40 years experience. 705-645-7638 or johnlakeview1@hotmail.com. (TFN)

STAMP CARPET and DUCT CLEANING

We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year. Thank you for your business in 2014. We look forward to servicing you in 2015.

COMPUTER sales & service. Set up, file transfers, software installation, virus infections, networking, continuous backups, emergency service available. Call The Computer Guy - Dave Spaxman - at 705-286-0007. WE MAKE HOUSE CALLS! (TFN)

SAME DAY SCREEN REPAIR, call or visit Carriage House, Minden, 705-286-2994. (TFN)

SERVICES

COTTAGE MEDIC home or cottage maintenance. Winter maintenance, renovations, repairs. Call or text Cottage Medic: Cheryl and Geoff 705-854-0267 (TFN)

FOR RENT

HOUSE, HALIBURTON VILLAGE 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, laundry, large lot. \$1250/month inclusive. Available immediately. Call 705-754-3080 (JA15)

COMMERCIAL OFFICE SPACE Modern 1100 sq feet space on Hwy. #118 newly painted, with two large private offices, large reception area with kitchen and bathroom. Parking available. Suitable for a small office. For further information please call 705-457-6333. (TFN)

COMMERCIAL SPACE 3,000 sq. ft. - Prime downtown location beside Haliburton Legion. Available immediately. Ideal for office space or small business For more information call Gary Thorpe at 705-457-2828 (TFN)

FOR RENT

NEW ONE BEDROOM apartment in nice quiet area just outside of Minden. \$690/month plus utilities. Phone 705-286-5076 to view. (JA29)

1200 SQUARE FEET Very clean space. Industrial Park, Haliburton. 16' Ceilings, 14' roll up door, mezzanine. 705-457-5508 or jdwalker@bellnet.ca (TFN)

FOR SALE

SNOWMOBILES: 1990 SR5 Yamaha 540. New seat, windshield, gas lines. Very good condition. 5600 KM. Snow ready. \$1200. 1983 340 Enticer, new skis, carbides, sliders, windshield & seat cover. Electric start with battery. Very good condition. 4500 km. \$900. Call 705-457-1307 (JA8)



OBITUARIES



Ethel Baker (nee Dewars) January 23, 1923 - December 31, 2014 - Peacefully at Caressant Care, Lindsay in her 92nd year. Beloved wife of the late Wesley Baker (1994). Close friend of the late Harvey Bunker (2013). Dear mother of Barbara, Nancy (Frank Davies), Marjory (Rick Haugh), Fred (predeceased) (Connie surviving) and Greg (Sheila). Ethel was one of nine children and is survived by her twin sister Edith Reid. She will be sadly missed by her 16 grandchildren, 24 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren. Predeceased by granddaughter Jennifer and baby James. Mom was the matriarch of the family, the glue that held us all together. Special thanks to all the staff at Caressant Care who took such good care of our mom. The family received friends at Parker Funeral Home, 19 Moose Road, Lindsay on Sunday, January 4th, 2015. Memoriam donations to the Alzheimer Society of Canada would be appreciated. Interment in the spring at Gelert Cemetery.

Online condolences may be made at www.parkerfuneralhome.ca



Lee Ann Sergi (nee Reynolds)

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

On Wednesday, December 31, 2014 in her 45th year. Dearly beloved wife of Chris Sergi. Loving daughter of Jim Reynolds and Wanda Reynolds (nee Bain). Dear sister of Kelly (Chris Harrison) and Curtis Reynolds (Brandi). Dear step-mother of Reanna McCluskey (Johnny). Cherished grandma of two granddaughters. Loving aunt of Kendall, Kiefer, Beckam and Maddex. Dear granddaughter of Ruth Bain. Lee Ann will be sadly missed by many other family and friends.

VISITATION, MEMORIAL SERVICE & RECEPTION

Friends may call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy 118, Haliburton, Ontario 705-457-9209 on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 from 11 o'clock until the time of Memorial Service in the Chapel at 1 o'clock. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the AVM & Aneurysm Research Fund at the Toronto General & Western Hospital Foundation (416-603-6278 or www.tgwhf.ca) would be appreciated by the family.



EVENTS



BOOK YOUR

Special Events
Corporate Functions
Boy & Girl Camps
Birthday Parties are our specialty

Located at 12281 Hwy 35 in Minden, ON
Phone: 705-286-3900 Email: fastlanebowling@gmail.com

FOR RENT

FOR RENT

Commercial and Office space in the village of Haliburton
Three units available immediately starting at \$225 per month plus HST
Wheelchair accessible with elevator in building
For more information please contact Nick at 705-854-1072

HELP WANTED

Voyageur

Transportation Services

Non-Urgent Patient Transfer Attendant Positions Available

Emergency Care/ First Responder (MFR/EFR) Certificate, Emergency Patient Care, or AMECA Required
www.voyageurtransportation.ca

Email: jobs@voyageurtransportation.ca
Fax: 519-455-4402 Phone: 1-800-263-7163 ext 255
Accommodations for applicants with a disability are available upon request.

Highlander classifieds

FOR SALE

2003 PONTIAC MONTANA, stretch van, good condition, well maintained with only 139,000 kms, fully loaded, asking \$3,000. Call 705-457-2828 (JA8)

20 cuft REFRIDGERATOR with ice maker \$225. 30" Range hood with halogen lighting (almost new) \$60. Call 705-286-2305 (JA15)

SAVE MONEY!

Garbage removal, free for any re-sellable items or make a deal to buy furniture, boats, etc. One piece or entire contents, plus small building demolition and take away. 705-448-3920.

2003 PONTIAC CHAINS – all types. Truck, tractor, lift truck. Call 1-800-954-9998 (JA30)

2003 FORD F250 Super Duty Diesel. 420,000 Km. Runs perfect. New tires, brakes. Will only need some body work to certify. \$2,399 705-286-2900 after 5:00p.m. (TFN)

BLIZZACK SNOW TIRES 2, 235X65 R17. No rims. \$200. Call 705-286-4333 (TFN)

WANTED

CAR SHARE/CAR POOLING. Haliburton to Tory Hill one way or both required three days per week. Will pay gas and mileage. Please call Jake 705-854-0268 (JA30)

HELP WANTED

EXPERIENCED LINE COOK. Maple Avenue Tap and Grill. 3 days per week, PM shift 4-9pm. Call 705-306-0964 to discuss resume. (TFN)

CAREERS

CAREER IN REAL ESTATE - Unlimited income potential. Flexible hours. We will train you to make an above-average income in this exciting business. Call for details. Bowes & Cocks Limited, Brokerage. Kate Archer, Broker/Career Coach Direct Line: (705) 930-4040. (TFN)

EVENTS

VON Smart Exercise Program. Tuesday's 11:00am - Hyland Crest, Thursday's 1:00pm - Echo Hills. Call Carol for more information 705-457-4551 (TFN)

EVENTS

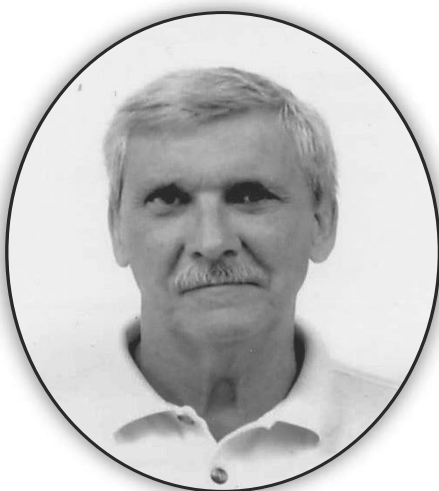
PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month. 1:30-3:30 pm. Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team education room. October 8, November 12; December 10. Call Dave Graham 705-457-1296 (TFN)

IN MEMORY

Don Hall

From Minden

In loving memory of a wonderful Husband, Father, Gramps and Best Friend who left us January 19, 2011



This day is remembered and quietly kept,
No words are needed, we shall never forget,
For those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day.
Unseen and unheard, but always near,
So loved, so missed, and so very dear.

Sadly missed and loved forever!

Eleanor, Stewart, Jenny, Glenn and Julie
Chris, Andrew, Ryan, Caitlin and
Owen Family and Friends

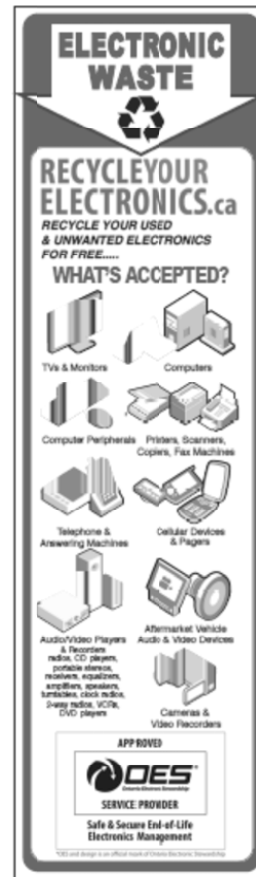


Municipality of Dysart et al
135 Maple Ave, PO Box 389,
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
(705)457-1740 www.dysartetal.ca



REDUCE – REUSE – RECYCLE

ALL our Landfill sites accept your unwanted E-Waste for recycling FREE of charge.



Visit www.dysartetal.ca or contact the Municipal Office for more landfill information and updates.

Subject to change without notice.
(Landfill cards must be shown at the gate)

Space provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.

HELP WANTED

FINANCIAL SERVICES MANAGER

Be a part of our growing team! We are currently seeking a motivated, customer-focused, results driven Financial Services manager. The successful candidate will possess excellent leadership, presentation and communication skills as well as Sales and Finance experience. Competitive pay plan including benefits to the right individual. Please email resume to tran.mindensubaru@bellnet.ca.

SALES ASSOCIATE

Due to continued growth we are expanding our team. If you have a passion for customer service, are enthusiastic and have the desire to succeed then come join our sales team. We are committed to a purchase, delivery and ownership experience unlike any other. Automotive Sales experience required. Competitive pay plan including benefits to the right individual. Please email resume to tran.mindensubaru@bellnet.ca.



SUBARU

Confidence in Motion

Quality driven parts and service.

MINDEN SUBARU

13061 Hwy 35 N, Minden ON

705-286-6126

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Highlands Summer Festival 2015 AUDITIONS & CASTING

Saturday and Sunday, January 24 & 25
Performers between the ages of 16 and 65 are invited to audition for the 2015 Summer Season

Our 2015 Season includes:

Lend Me a Tenor

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Nunsensations

And returning for July 2015!

Early Stages – our new apprenticeship program for young performers

Character descriptions, audition information, rehearsal and production scheduling can be found at www.highlandsummerfestival.on.ca

For more information contact Executive Producer Melissa Stephens at melistep@gmail.com or 705-455-2366



Did Santa Forget?

If you didn't find a 2015 season pass from Highlands Summer Festival in your stocking this Christmas, there is still time to take advantage of our special pricing.

The sale continues until January 15!

See all five great shows, live... **Lend Me A Tenor; One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest; Nunsensations; Wingfield, Lost and Found; and Ralph + Lina...** for one low price... just \$150. Heck, you might want to buy one for Santa as well, just as a gentle reminder for next year.

Call 705-457-9933/855-457-9933 or visit our website for more information or to order your passes on line: www.highlandsummerfestival.on.ca

Do Something Dramatic this Christmas.

What's on

January 11, 2015 2:00 pm
at Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion
presented by Prologue to the Performing Arts

James Hill & Anne Janelle:
ALL ABOARD THE UKULELE TRAIN



Equal parts disarming, captivating and mind-blowing: Ukulele master James Hill has four genre-bending albums to his name and a fan-base that spans the globe. His inventiveness and passion for sharing music through this fun, kid-sized instrument makes him an instant hit for all ages. Anne Janelle sweetens Hill's sound with seamless harmony vocals and cello lines. This duo is certain to delight and surprise.

Razzamataz Kids' Shows!

for more information see www.razzamataz.ca or call Dawn: 705-854-0728

Tickets available at the door:
\$8 - Adult, \$6 - Child,
Kids under 2 - free
Season's Pass (4 shows): \$24

 ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

 Canadian Heritage Patrimoine canadien

Razzamataz Kids' Shows! are made possible in part through generous donations from local businesses and service clubs. Thank you!

CANOE FM's
RADIO HALL PRESENTS



Zoe Chilco

DATE: Friday, January 16th
TIME: 7:30pm, Doors Open at 7:00pm
739 Mountain Street Haliburton
To reserve your seat please call 705-457-1009 or email radiohall@canoefm.com

Wilberforce
Agricultural Society
Annual General Meeting
& Spaghetti Supper
Saturday, January 10
Supper 6pm Meeting 7pm
Lloyd Watson Centre

Come enjoy good food and social time. Spaghetti supper provided (free), pot luck desserts. Learn more about the Wilberforce Fair and how you can participate.

Everyone Welcome!

For more info call 705-448-3981 www.WilberforceFair.com

HighlanderTV

For breaking news, videos and community events visit HighlanderOnline.ca

HighlanderTV

presents

THROWBACK THURSDAYS

Step into Haliburton County as it was two decades ago when Kris Kadwell and Al Sumpter created and produced CHTV, pioneering television for the Haliburton Highlands. The shows ran one evening each week in Minden and Haliburton from 1994 to 1999.

Every Thursday, HighlanderTV will post clips from a variety of CHTV productions. See old friends and familiar places as they were in the 1990s. Revisit the events and people that made the county tick. Go to HighlanderOnline.ca.

This week's clip: Happy New Year wishes with the friendly faces that helped promote Haliburton Weekend!



Because everyone has a story.

What's on



The Ukulele Express

By **Matthew Desrosiers**
Editor

Award-winning Canadian musician James Hill is on his way to Haliburton – and he’s bringing his ukulele.

On Jan. 11 at 2 p.m., Hill will perform his family-friendly show, All Aboard the Ukelele Express, at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion. After the show, people are invited to stick around for a ukulele workshop.

In fact, Hill said it’s often the case that fans will bring their ukuleles to the show, and play afterwards.

“The ukulele is unique in many ways, and this is one of the ways it is,” he said. “It’s a very hands-on kind of instrument. After the show, we’ll have a little break and then we’ll get some time together to share a bit of music. In this case, it’s pretty well open to anybody who wants to play. Anybody is welcome, and I think they’ll learn a thing or two.”

Hill continues to learn new things about the ukulele. He describes his style of music as unpredictable.

“The ukulele has so many sides and so many surprises,” he said. “You’re always opening new doors and discovering new possibilities with the instrument.”

Regardless of what style he’s playing,

he always finds something new with the instrument.

“My music, whether it’s playing arrangements of classical music, jazz or traditional music, or whether it’s my own tune, the ukulele is this wonderful never-ending surprise. People are in for a lot of variety, that’s for sure.”

Hill will be travelling from Nova Scotia along with his wife, Anne, who plays the cello. All Aboard the Ukulele Express is a special show they do together for families and school audiences.

“It’s a show that takes the audience on a bit of a trip,” he said. “We go to a whole bunch of places in the world. We end up coming back home, but we come back home with a greater appreciation of different cultures and a greater appreciation of what the ukulele can do.”

The show is interactive, with lots of playing and singing. He said it even has a few surprises.

“It’s going to be a fun show for all ages.”

But there’s another reason Hill is excited about bringing the show to Haliburton.

About 45 years ago, J. Chalmers Doane introduced the ukulele to the music program in Halifax schools. It was a practical and economical way to teach instruments and music to children. Hill is friends with Doane’s



Photos submitted by James Hill

James Hill and wife Anne will bring the magic of the ukelele to Hailburton County.

daughter, Juno-award winner Melanie Doane, who lives in Toronto.

“Canada has a long history [of using the ukulele] and it’s coming back really strong in the Toronto area,” he said. “The education aspect that reaches kids and helps them to discover music, just with the simple four strings of the ukulele. This is becoming a big hot topic in Toronto right now.”

The revival of the ukulele in classrooms has Hill excited. He’s been involved in the

renaissance, and the Haliburton show is a way to further expand the instrument’s reach and hopefully connect more people to music through the ukulele.

“The concert has more life than just the hour and a half we’re going to be on stage,” he said. “It’s connected to a bigger picture.”

The show is put on my Razzamatazz Kids’ Shows. Tickets are \$8 for adults or \$6 for children over two years old. For more information call 705-854-0728.



*Wishing everyone peace, good health,
and happiness throughout the New Year!*



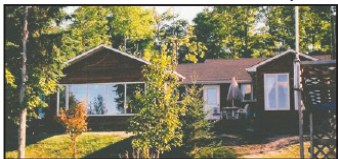
Chris James*
705-286-1234
ext 222

MAJESTIC SETTING \$800,000.



- 4-season, 3 bedroom home / cottage
- 265 feet of clean sand shoreline, 1.35 acres
- Separate 2 bedroom, 1 bath Bunkie
- Dry slip boathouse with sauna, games room
- Oversized double garage, stunning views.

4 SEASON RETREAT \$395,000.



- 3+ bedroom, open concept, ranch style home
- Child safe shoreline, expansive views
- Front and rear decking
- 1,800 square feet of living space
- Year round easy access

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY \$599,900.



- High traffic and visibility
- Complete turnkey set up
- 2.5 acres level lot, fully fenced
- Fully serviced office building
- Storage units, U-Haul Rental

PRIME OPPORTUNITY \$219,900.



- Long term "Brewers Retail" tenant
- 3,000 square ft. building, loading dock
- Overlooking Gull River
- On town water and sewer
- Great investment!



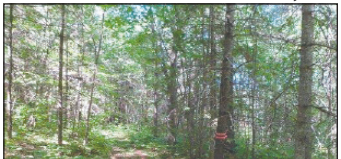
**Anthony
vanLieshout*****
705-457-2414 x 27



Cathy Bain*
705-286-1234
ext 224



CALLING ALL HUNTERS \$79,900.



- 87 acres
- Surrounded on 3 sides by Crown Land
- Level area to build on
- Loads of hardwood - never been logged
- A hunters paradise

3 BEDROOM HOME IN CARNARVON \$169,900.



- Superb family home
- Centrally located close to all amenities
- Level lot with double detached garage
- 3 bedrooms, open concept
- Beautiful gardens on a corner lot



Lindsay Elder**
705-286-1234
ext 223



Lorri Roberts*
705-457-2414
ext 43

PERFECT BEACH! \$489,900.



- Stunning 4-season home or cottage
- Level, well teed lot on 3 lake chain
- 2,300 sq. ft. of living space, 3 bdms, 2 bath
- Finished lower level with lakeside walkout
- Double garage, heated workshop, shed, & toy house!

YEAR ROUND HOME \$134,900.



- 3+1 bedroom, 2,000 square foot home
- Oak kitchen, formal living/dining area
- Full basement with built in garage
- Year round access close to amenities
- Being sold as is



Susan Johnson*
705-457-2414
ext 44



Luba Cargill**
705-286-1234
ext 252



SHOWS TO PERFECTION! \$279,900



- 2 + 1 bedrooms, 786 square feet living space
- Gently sloping lot with 100 feet of waterfront
- Year round access, upgraded driveway
- Large lakeside dock, fire pit, Bunkie
- 4-season use with extensive renovations

FABULOUS COUNTRY HOME \$439,900.



- 3+ bedrooms, 2.5 bath, 3,928 sq. ft. living space
- Close to beaches, skiing, fine dining
- Sunroom, hardwood floors, games room
- Lower level walkout to gorgeous yard
- Many recent upgrades, year round comfort

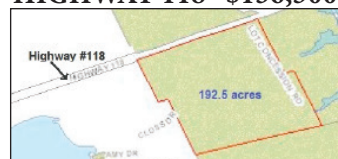


Lorri Roberts*
705-457-2414
ext 43



Diane Knupp*
705-488-3060

HIGHWAY 118 \$136,500.



- Approximately 2,600 feet frontage on #118
- Driveway installed with pole and meter
- Maple and Oak - logging potential
- Snowmobile trail and 2 lakes nearby
- Great site to build or for hunt camp

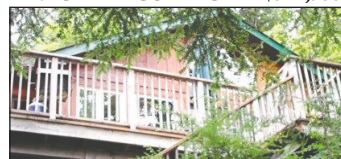
FOUR MILE LAKE \$429,000.



- 180 acre farm property
- Year round municipal road
- 1,500 feet of shoreline
- Somerville Con. 6 at Shuttleworth
- Snowmobile trail on east side.



DRAG LAKE COTTAGE \$324,500.



- Charming 3 bedroom back split cottage with large screened Muskoka Room and a bunkie. Enjoy miles of boating and fishing on Drag and Spruce Lakes.

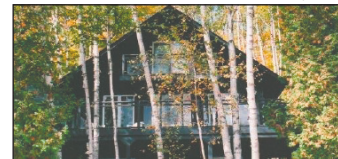


Larry Hussey*
705-457-2414
ext 23



Marcia Bell*
705-457-2414
ext 27

AT WATER'S EDGE \$349,900.



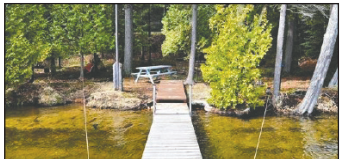
- 2 bedroom, 1,580 square ft. cottage
- 105 feet of clean sand shoreline, sunrise view
- Interlocking stone / brick patios, treed
- Lower level walkout, storage shed
- Lakeside decking with glass panels

PRIVACY ON A 5 LAKE CHAIN \$574,900.



- 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 3,200 sq. ft. of living space
- 187 feet of sand and rock shoreline
- Year round access, sunset views
- Skylights, finished walk-out lower level
- Detached double garage with finished loft

4 SEASON RETREAT \$349,900.



- 3 bedroom, 1 bath, winterized cottage
- 100.65 feet of sand frontage
- Year round municipal dead end road access
- Cathedral ceilings, wrap around decking
- Comes furnished and ready to enjoy

ROCKY POINT \$349,900.



- 3 bedrooms, 1,714 sq. ft. cottage
- Rocky point lot with 210 feet of frontage
- Open concept, stone fireplace
- 2 screened porch areas, detached garage
- Easy access off municipal, paved road



Marcia Bell*
705-457-2414
ext 27